

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION
Early Intervention Committee Meeting

LOCATION
Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference

Meeting Date
February 12, 2008
10:30 a.m.

Attendees:

Brita Bishop
Eric Gebhart
Meghan Johnson
Debbie Kitelinger
Sheila Sellers
Millie Ryan

Minutes Prepared by: Lenny DiPaolo
Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order
Roll Call

Introductions, Announcements or Good News

Debbie Kitelinger called the meeting to order and noted that there was no quorum.

Millie Ryan gave an update on the legislative activity. She reported that the Department of Health and Social Services' budget on the House side is about to be closed out. At the Trust legislative teleconference, around autism in particular, there wasn't a need to do a lot of advocacy.

Millie Ryan announced that there was a proposal put forward related to how the rate increase would be allocated across all the different entities that the Department of Health and Social Services wanted to give a rate increase for. On the DD side of things, the CCMC and MR/DD waiver would be seeing a 4% increase. This is an interim increase and will be adjusted depending on what is learned from the rate study. There is also a small increase for care coordination and PCAs.

The Senate is going to start looking at DHSS' budget and looking at the changes from last year to this year. There is an increase there for EI services and hopefully that will stay in the budget.

Debbie Kitelinger announced that she had a great phone conversation with Donna Swihart yesterday and feels she is improving quickly.

Approve the Agenda

The agenda was not approved due to lack of quorum.

Approve the Minutes

The minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum.

Report from Section 619

No report was given.

Report from EI/ILP

No report was given but Millie Ryan noted the annual performance report was sent in to the feds in a timely manner.

Millie Ryan stated that the funding for the early childhood mental health training hopefully will stay in the Governor's budget and can get started in FY09.

Brita Bishop reported that funding for the early childhood coordinator position was also in that budget.

Brita Bishop also discussed a pilot project with Juneau Youth Services for early childhood mental health consultation. The issue surrounding this project is the inability to bill Medicaid for services and they will need to go back and look at other options.

Agenda for March 10 - 11 Face-to-Face Meeting

After much discussion, it was decided to hold the March 10 - 11 face-to-face meeting in Anchorage. At that time they will discuss further options regarding traveling to the small communities in Southeast.

Eric Gebhart will check into when programs will be operating to ensure that the committee will be available to meet with them in a timely fashion.

Millie Ryan stated that if there were other things people wanted in the agenda for the March 10 – 11 meeting, to please let Sarah Souders know.

The meeting was concluded at 11:00.